



2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by Milton Keynes College against targets, objectives and written commitments set out in its 2019-20 access and participation plan. This document is a summary of information submitted by the provider to the OfS. This document is a self-report by the provider only and does not indicate any OfS assessment of compliance.

1. Ambition and strategy

Milton Keynes College's ambition and strategy as detailed in the 2019-20 access and participation plan:

Our purpose:

- To be at the heart of our communities creating excellent learning in partnership with every area of our society and economy.
- Welcoming those who want to learn and improve. We will seek to meet individual needs where appropriate and possible.
- Building the strongest partnerships with our communities, businesses and other stakeholders.
- Acting as a catalyst for economic prosperity and wellbeing.

Our vision:

- Excellence for our learners, their communities and our business partners.
- By being an open and successful college that measures our success through the success of others.
- By offering a life-changing and individualised student journey and experience.
- By building exemplary learning partnerships between our staff, students, parents, employers, other education providers, voluntary sector and public sector.
- By enhancing the effectiveness of our systems, processes and structures.
- By ensuring vocational skills and training are held in high esteem as a driver of our economy and community.
- Collaboration of NCOP (now Uni Connect) and Milton Keynes College.

In 2017-18 the College had a three-year growth plan for Higher Education. It recognised that there were two distinct markets that the College serves:

1. The internal progression of full-time Level 3 students (typically in the 18-20 year old age bracket) completing Study Programmes, who would prefer to continue their studies at the College, predominantly accessing our full-time Higher Education offer (typically, though not exclusively, at Levels 4 and 5).
2. The older adult market for part-time Higher Education programmes that enable applicants to study alongside their employment.

The continued development of the College's Higher Education provision sought to serve these markets such that:

- Full time programmes were clearly matched to local employment opportunities and also support progression onto Level 6 provision offered by university partners in the area.
- This agenda was very much around widening participation and the work that we carry out with NCOP supported this.
- Part-time programmes support our students to enhance their skills in the world of work and give them greater scope for promotion. With this in mind many of our part-time Higher Education programmes offer additional sector-related qualifications.
- The resource plan identified recruitment targets linked to the strategy.

In 2018-19 the College was aiming for all programmes to secure student achievement at or 85%. This achievement rate refers to the proportion of students who were enrolled on a programme who go on to complete and achieve their targeted qualification.

The shape of the College's Higher Education provision has been informed by the use of Labour Market Intelligence, conversations with specific employers, partner universities and current students.

The College, during the academic year 2019/20, focused on access, student success and progression measures for the following underrepresented groups:

- BME Students
- Students with Disabilities
- Mature Students
- Care Leavers

--

2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by Milton Keynes College of progress against the targets approved in its 2019-20 access and participation plan.

Please note the tables contain only a summary of target milestones approved in 2019-20 access and participation plans. Full information can be found in **Table 8a – statistical targets and milestones** and **Table 8b – Other milestones and targets** of Milton Keynes College's 2019-20 [access and participation plan](#).

Any optional commentary provided against the targets is given in [Annex B](#).

Statistical targets and milestones

Reference Number (lifecycle stage)	Description	Baseline year	Baseline data	2018-19 milestone	2019-20 milestone	Units of target	Comparison year	Actual performance in comparison year	Target self-assessment
T16a_01 (Access)	Currently 8% of our FE students progress onto HE, however of those students 59% progress internally. Our target is to maintain a high percentage of internal progression from FE to HE (within the college)	2015-16	59%	60%	63%	Percentage	2019-20	18	Limited progress
T16a_02 (Access)	Sustain high levels of recruitment for widening access students with disabilities	2015-16	14%	17%	18%	Percentage	2019-20	26	Expected progress
T16a_03 (Progression)	Encourage students to progress to Northampton University for third year top up by arranging trip to visit the university and use the facilities. This target will be part of a collaborative action plan.	2015-16	28%	70%	75%	Percentage	2015-16	0	No progress
T16a_04 (Access)	We are aware that whilst our recruitment of men into the other active industries programmes is good (70%, 2015/16), we are keen to improve the number of women trainees into the industry. We aim to do this by targeting promotional material and having a mixed teaching team.	2015-16	47%	40%	45%	Percentage	2019-20	40	Limited progress
T16a_05 (Access)	Within the active industry courses our recruitment of ethnic minority trainees has been above the college average (20% 2015/16). Our target for the FdA Health and Fitness is to maintaining the high	2015-16	9%	18%	20%	Percentage	2019-20	41	Expected progress

	levels of recruitment of ethnic minorities.									
T16a_06 (Student success)	Target retention targets for year 1. This target will be part of a collaborative action plan.	2015-16	87%	86%	88%	Percentage	2019-20	84	No progress	
T16a_07 (Student success)	Target retention targets for year 2. This target will be part of a collaborative action plan.	2015-16	100%	86%	88%	Percentage	2018-19	81	No progress	
T16a_08 (Access)	Encourage and sustain high levels of internal recruitment for this programme within Milton Keynes College.	2015-16	57%	65%	70%	Percentage	2019-20	54	Limited progress	
T16a_09 (Access)	Increase the number of entrants in receipt of DSA though the investment in specialist equipment and resources	2015-16	4%	15%	17%	Percentage	2019-20	3	No progress	
T16a_10 (Access)	Increase the number of entrants from low-income backgrounds through the investment of the higher fees into physical resources	2015-16	14%	23%	25%	Percentage	2019-20	0	No progress	
T16a_11 (Progression)	Sustain high levels of students who are carers (who may otherwise struggle in Higher Education) progressing from year 1 to year 2.	2015-16	100%	90%	90%	Percentage	2019-20	0	No progress	
T16a_12 (Student success)	Increase the percentage of students with mental health problems and specific learning difficulties who complete the programme.	2015-16	0%	60%	70%	Percentage	2019-20	64	Expected progress	
T16a_13 (Student success)	Increase the percentage of students from Gypsy and Traveller communities who complete the programme.	2015-16	0%	60%	70%	Percentage	2019-20	0	No progress	
T16a_14 (Student success)	Increase the percentage of students who are care-leavers who complete the programme.	2016-17	0%	60%	70%	Percentage	2019-20	0	No progress	
T16a_15 (Access)	Sustain high levels of recruitment for white economically disadvantaged males	2016-17	0%	20%	20%	Percentage	2019-20	0	No progress	

Other milestones and targets

Reference Number (lifecycle stage)	Description	Baseline year	Baseline data	2018-19 milestone	2019-20 milestone	Units of target	Comparison year	Actual performance in comparison year	Target self-assessment
T16b_01 (Access)	This target is based around our long term out-reach HE roadshow set out in our access agreement. Increase the number of secondary schools and sixth form Colleges we visit in low participation neighbourhoods. In collaboration with the NCOP.	2016-17	5%	20%	25%	Percentage	2019-20	0	No progress

3. Investment commitments

3.1. Access and participation investment for the last audited year

Please note that some differences in predicted vs actual spend may be due to reporting differences between academic and financial years.

Financial year	2019-20		
	Predicted spend (£)	Actual spend (£)	Difference (ppt)
Access investment	£15,300.00	£59,629.85	290%
Financial Support	£10,000.00	£16,500.00	65%

4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected Milton Keynes College has made the following commitments to increase the rate of progress against their targets.

Reference Number	Steps that will be taken in the future to make expected progress against target
T16a_01	Greater emphasis on the quality of internal progression activity
T16a_03	Continue to promote progression pathway to UoN, including providing access to Open Event information by digital and physical means.
T16a_04	We are developing systems internally to better track progress of Gender balance through all systems and process. This Business Intelligence tool will enable us to track data from the point of application to support efforts.
T16a_06	Academic Board and Quality Team will work with those areas who are beneath APP expectations to support the driving of quality and capacity of provision
T16a_07	Academic Board and Quality Team will work with those areas who are beneath APP expectations to support the driving of quality and capacity of provision
T16a_08	Additional Marketing of the Internal Progression Bursary (£500) to all current students. Furthermore, ensure all HE provision is represented during 'Internal progression' meetings that happen with all L3 Year 2 students.
T16a_09	The College recognises that additional support is required to support students with DSA applications. Becoming a DSA centre will support efforts, meaning that we can assess in-house, rather than relying upon external support.

T16a_10	Develop systems to identify those learners who may require additional support and/ or fiscal resoruce. Continue to promote Bursary Options for Students.
T16a_11	Ensure sufficient support is provided for those who share that they are a carer.
T16a_13	Review of whether this is an aproprate target, given the very small number of students at the College who share their ethnicity code as 33
T16a_14	Explore additional support and/ or specific Bursaries for Care giving students
T16a_15	Development of sharing opportunity and publishing data to inform interventions.
T16b_01	Return of the physcial visits, along with virtual open events.

5. Confirmation

Milton Keynes College confirms that:

Student engagement	
Have you worked with your students to help them complete the access and participation plan monitoring student submission?	
Yes	
Have you engaged with your student body in the design, evaluation, and monitoring of the plan?	
Yes	
Verification and sign off	
Milton Keynes College has confirmed that the information included in this impact report is accurate, that it has been compiled in line with OfS guidance, and that it is being submitted on behalf of the governing body of the provider.	
Yes	
Accountable officer sign off	
Name	Dr Julie Mills
Position	CEO and Group Principal

Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

Milton Keynes College's commentary where progress against targets was less than expected.

Target reference number: T16a_01
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
No. We are significantly beneath the number reported previously. In 19/20 total of 24 students progressed from Level 3 Study Programmes. This is of a total first year intake of 131 students.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
The College has a structured approach to internal progression; however, it is not currently meeting the plans set out.

Target reference number: T16a_03
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
The College has reduced its overall student numbers who study as part of a Validation Agreement with University of Northampton. Whilst we continue to support progression for those students who remain studying with the College, our ability to meet targets are limited by the number of students studying under the Validation Agreement.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
During the Coronavirus pandemic all 'Open Events' moved to Digital options to ensure students still had access to opportunity. During the 2019/20 year of the cohort of 7, 5 had to resit modules and 2 decided not to progress to the top-up.

Target reference number: T16a_04
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
No. Whilst we are 5% behind target for 19/20, we are in line with previous year target. Small learners have significant impact upon overall percentage
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
No

Target reference number: T16a_06
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
No. We are currently 4% beneath Target for 19/20

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

HE Retention now features as part of Academic Board updates for specific areas. APP Targets to be shared as part of this process to ensure organisation-wide support and challenge.

Target reference number: T16a_07

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

No. We are currently 7% beneath Target for 19/20

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

HE Retention now features as part of Academic Board updates for specific areas. APP Targets to be shared as part of this process to ensure organisation-wide support and challenge.

Target reference number: T16a_08

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

No. We are currently 16% beneath Target for 19/20

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

Not beyond that detailed in the plan.

Target reference number: T16a_09

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

No. The college remains broadly in-line with baseline data and ~13% beneath target.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

Investment has been made into specialist furniture to support those who require it. For example, tables and benches that are height adjustable.

Target reference number: T16a_10

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

No. Whilst the College has protocols in place to means test students to offer bursaries, this activity is not targeted and is on the basis of students applying directly. Structural systems required to identify individuals and target interventions.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

We have promoted additional Bursary Funds available to all students groups. The Coronavirus pandemic has meant that we have had an increasing numbers of individuals requiring additional support.

Target reference number: T16a_11

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

No recorded carers to report.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

No. N/A

Target reference number: T16a_13

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

No learners in the 19/20 academic year shared Ethnicity as Ethnicity Code 33 (Gypsy/ Traveller)

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

No, and it is apparent that additional work is required in this area if we are to meet the target

Target reference number: T16a_14

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

No. Only 1 HE student flagged as a Care Leaver, and they withdrew.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

No, and it is apparent that additional work is required in this area if we are to meet the target

Target reference number: T16a_15

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

No. We have insufficiently targeted intervention towards this group and/ or are we successfully capturing information to enable the monitoring of progress.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

This activity is under-developed.

Target reference number: T16b_01

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

No; however, the nature of the Covid-19 pandemic has meant that a 'roadshow' has been unable to take place.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

The College has engaged with a number of Virtual Careers and Progression-type events. These have, however been ad hoc.

Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

Milton Keynes College's commentary on any of the targets listed in [Section 2](#).

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	Engagement with UniConnect 'Eaton Manor' CASWARD 11UBHN required. Furthermore, continuation of Internal progression activities.
T16a_02	Yes, albeit the percentage recorded represents students who have shared a Learning Disability and/or Difficulty. College is in the process of applying to become a DSA assessment centre
T16a_03	This will be removed from the plan in future as we will no longer new intake of Fd and BSc programmes with UoN from 21/22.
T16a_04	This will be removed from the plan in future as we will no longer new intake of Fd and BSc programmes with UoN from 21/22.
T16a_05	Yes. Small cohort size (17) has created significant progress in this area. Of the current cohort, 7 have shared that they are BAME. This will be removed from the plan in future as we will no longer new intake of Fd and BSc programmes with UoN from 21/22.
T16a_06	
T16a_07	
T16a_08	
T16a_09	
T16a_10	
T16a_11	
T16a_12	Yes, albeit the percentage declared refers to all 'Completers' who shared a Learning Disability or Difference (29/ 45) and not necessarily those with MH challenges. Additional Safeguarding measures have been taken during the Coronavirus pandemic to support students' Mental Health and Wellbeing. Additional efforts have been made to ensure that students can remain on-programme.
T16a_13	
T16a_14	
T16a_15	
T16b_01	